

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED POSS DUPE

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 PRS-01 CIAE-00

INR-07 NSAE-00 /047 W

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P R 181512Z OCT 76

FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO USIA WASHDC PRIORITY

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 9986

AMCONSUL LENINGRAD

UNCLAS MOSCOW 16361

USIA FOR IMV/D IEU; STATE FOR EUR/SOV; LENINGRAD FOR P&C

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OGEN, UR

SUBJECT: VTR SCREENINGS SECOND DEBATE

REF: USIA 30904, USIA 27887

1. IN SERIES OF FIVE SEPARATE SHOWINGS OF SECOND DEBATE, EMBASSY
AVERAGED 36 PERSONS PER SHOWING, TOTAL 180.

2. FIFTY-FIVE ATTENDED SPECIAL INVITATIONAL SHOWING FOR ENGLISH-
SPEAKING SOVIETS WHICH WAS HOSTED AND INTRODUCED BY CHARGE JACK
MATLOCK. WIDE SPECTRUM OF ORGANIZATIONS REPRESENTED, INCLUDING
USA INSTITUTE, UPDK, IMEMO, NOVOSTI, RADIO AND TV. NUMEROUS OTHERS
CALLED EMBOFFS REGRETTING THAT THEY COULD NOT ATTEND.

3. REACTION TO SHOWING VERY STRONG AND GUESTS ENGAGED IN LIVELY
DISCUSSIONS BOTH BEFORE SCREENING AND DURING BREAK FOR REFRESHMENTS.
VIEWERS GENERALLY AVOIDED EXPRESSING THEIR PREFERENCES ALTHOUGH
GENERAL FEELING EMERGED THAT SOVS PREFER FORD AS KNOWN FACTOR.
VIEWERS GREATLY APPRECIATED OPPORTUNITY TO SEE CANDIDATES IN
ACTION AND POST RATES SHOWING SEVEN ON PREFERENCE SCALE.

4. SPECIAL SHOWING OF VIDEO TAPE WITH RUSSIAN AUDION ATTRACTED
ONLY FIVER PERSONS IN SPITE OF DISTRIBUTION OF PERSONAL INVITATIONS.
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LACK OF INTEREST, COUPLED WITH FACT THAT SYNCHRONIZATION OF AUDIO
WITH VIDEO DIFFICULT AND DISRUPTIVE, LEADS POST TO RECOMMEND THAT

WE ABANDON SUCH TRANSLATION NEXT DEBATE. RUSSIAN VOICE TEXT WAS NOT 50 PERCENT LONGER THAN ELGIISH, BUT ACTUALLY LONGER BY SEVERAL SECONDS IN SOME PORTIONS AND SHORTER BY SECONDS IN OTHER SECTIONS. ALL THIS CONTRIBUTED TO DISTURBING FINAL PRODUCT. POST DIS-APPOINTED THAT ALL DUBBING EFFORTS WERE LARGELY IN VAIN, BUT GREATLY APPRECIATED. FYI; THE FEW THAT ATTENDED THE DEBATE PRAISED THE TRANSLATION FOR ITS CLARITY, SYTLE AND ACCURACY. END FYI.

5. PRINTED RUSSIAN TEXTS WERE EXTREMELY USEFUL, NOT ONLY FOR SCREENING, BUT FOR SEPARATE DISTRIBUTION AND EMBASSY DEEPLY APPRECIATIVE THIS EXTRA EFFORT. EMBASSY STRONGLY URGES THAT SIMILAR TEXTS BE MADE AVAILABLE ASAP FOLLOWING FINAL DEBATE. ONLY ENGLISH VERSION VTR WILL BE OFFERED TO SOVIETS BUT RUSSIAN TEXTS WILL COMPLIMENT PROGRAM

6. AS PER LAST SHIPMENT VTRS, EMBASSY REQUESTS THAT USIA SHIP TWO COPIES VIA URGENT POUCH AND TWO COPIES WITH OFFICIAL VISITOR DEPARTING SOONEST AFTER SHOWING. DISNEY TECHNICIAN PORTERFIELD WILL BE TRAVELLING 27TH AND CAN BE REACHED THROUGH ICS BUT HOPEFULLY AGENCY AWARE OF SOMEONE COMING EARLIER. CLEAR RUSSIAN TEXT SHOULD ALSO BE HAND-CARRIED.

7. DIPLOMATS, CORRESPONDENTS AND BUSINESSMEN AGAIN MOST APPRECIATIVE OF OPPORTUNITY TO VIEW DEBATE VTR ON THREE SEPARATE OCCASIONS.

8. ADVISE ON DELIVERY OF VTR.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 18 OCT 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976MOSCOW16361
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760390-0864
From: MOSCOW
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19761041/aaaabjnr.tel
Line Count: 91
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ullricre
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 29 JUN 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <29 JUN 2004 by DuboseBM>; APPROVED <16 DEC 2004 by ullricre>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: VTR SCREENINGS SECOND DEBATE
TAGS: OGEN, UR
To: USIA
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006